

East of Eden



COMMENT

This issue of East of Eden is being mailed about one week after the game deadline. For many 'zines this would not be an unusual delay, but it is the first time that Diplomacy adjudications in Black Frog/East of Eden have not been mailed within 48 hours of the deadline.

I have always felt that the span between deadlines should be spent in negotiating and not in waiting for adjudications. As a postal player I have always appreciated, but have seldom gotten, quick turn arounds by the G.M. Because of this, I have always sought to provide quick turnarounds in the games I am GMing.

For these reasons I am very sorry about the delay this time. But I have gradually come to realize that most of the subbers to my 'zines really don't give a damn--so why should I?

This has been an extremely busy month for me. I missed out on a vacation that I had been looking forward to for a long time. Instead of it I have had a very hectic workschedule at Lockheed working on a bid for an important bid for a \$500,000 NASA contract. I have also had a medical problem that has required a lot of attention and lab tests--but, as I have recently learned, will not require surgery in the immediate future. Also I have been making preparations for my son, who normally lives with his mother, to live here for the summer. This has taken quite a bit of preparation.

But none of the above situations have had anything to do with the reason for the delay in this issue of EoE. The reason lies in my present attitude toward the postal Diplomacy hobby. It has bottomed out at absolute zero (0). To be very truthful I almost think that the best thing for me right now would be to load my Diplomacy set and all the game files into the trash can and to forget that I ever had anything to do with postal Diplomacy.

But I won't. I know that my spirits will eventually pick up. And, I live up to my responsibilities. I have a commitment and a responsibility to complete all the games that I have started as a gamemaster or as a player. And I will! But I am, as of right now, going to curtail my involvement in the hobby in many ways.

Postal Diplomacy is a hobby. A hobby is an endeavor to be pursued for personal pleasure or enjoyment. Well, I have greatly enjoyed my involvement in this hobby up to a point. Up to a point where I have failed in one important objective:

I honestly thought that I could publish a light controversy free 'zine. That I could stick to humor and stay clear of controversy and dispute. I haven't been able to do this. All of a sudden I have all kinds of crap coming down on me rather hard:

(1.) McLendon. Issue #35 of Black Frog was the Black Jack Awards issue, mailed out on February 14th, 1981. Naive as I was, I actually intended that the issue would create good will in the hobby for myself and Black Frog. However, in a section clearly entitled "games" I cited 1980AN as my least favorite game. And then gave a reason for citing it as such. "It was a Steve McLendon/Bob Sergeant alliance game and I had been game long without any ally, with virtually no correspondence." I certainly didn't, or at least didn't intend to, implicate Steve McLendon for any kind of wrong doing.

Lee Kendter, Sr., who I have always had a great deal of respect for (in the very same issue of Black Frog I gave him a "very special citation" as "the single most important person in the hobby today") first picked up on this and wrote me in regards to my comments on 1980AN. I regarded Lee's letter as inquisitive and not hostile. I wrote back to Lee and simply stated that that the game was not enjoyable to me at all because of the alliance structure and lack of communication, but that I certainly had not intended my statement to be construed as making charges or indictments of anybody--most certainly not him. (..Would I have given him the special citation mentioned above, if I had been charging him with mis-running 1980AN?)

Well, I thought the matter had ended there, but wrong again. Apparently Kendter wrote the other players in the game (including McLendon) and, in the words of McLendon "Lee Kendter was rather furious...and...asked me ((McLendon)) if I was going to do anything about it."

Well, McLendon did something about it. Not only did he castigate me in an editorial in Dragon and the Lamb (#54, 27 May 1981) but he has apparently launched a personal vendetta against me in the hobby.

...continued on page 11.....

All but two units are successfully ordered!
Who are Turkey's enemies!!

AUST (Quinn) A VIE-Gal; A BUD(s) A Vie-Gal; F TRI(s) Turk-
ish A Bul-Ser; F GRE(s) Turkish A Con-Bul.
ENGL (Arnott) A BEL(s) French A Bur; A Nth-HEL; F Nwy-SKA;
F Edi-NWN; F Lon-NTH.
FRAN (Beck) F Bre-MAO; F Mar-GOL; A Spa-MAR; F Por-SPA-
(sc); A BUR(h).
GERM (Stafford) A DEN(s) Russian F Swe; A MUN(s) A Kie-Ruh;
A Kie-RUH; A Ber-KIE; F HOL(h).
ITAL (Townsend) F Tun-ION; F Nap-TYR; A Tus-PIE; A VEN(s)
A Tus-Pie.
RUSS (Landon) A Stp-NWY; F SWE(s) A Stp-Nwy; A WAR(s) A Gal;
A GAL(s) A Rum; A RUM(s) Turkish A Bul-Ser;
F SEV(h).
TURK (Stephens) A Bul-SER; A Con-BUL; F Smy-AEG; F Ank-
CON.

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Fall 1902 orders will be due on Wednesday July 8th
at 12:00 noon PDT.
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press

THE MOSCOW ROYAL PRESS: General Andreyev Stiglivich report-
ed to the Tsar today that the Royal Russian Scandinav-
ian forces have revolted. Several straggling officers
reported to General Stiglivich that the troops went
totally crazy after their traditional vodka party.
The peasant enlisted leaders were heard shouting "We
want warm weather!" As they marched their troops off
into the snow. It was doubted that they could get
very far in their bathing suits, and should return to
their home barracks soon.

RUSSIA to BLACK JACK: Your chimp story was nice, but had
a fatal flaw. Where'd you get a bottle of Pomerol
Sauvignon Blanc to serve to Jane Goodsome? Cua-
monga? That's the only place it could have come from
since there is no such wine (unless some shifty Cal-
ifornia bottler is putting it out). Pomerol (near
Libourne, which is NE of Bordeaux, France) produces
claret (red wine, blanc is white). The best Pomerol
Claret is also made from the merlot grape, not caber-
net sauvignon. The sauvignon blanc grape makes sweet

sweet sauternes wines, the best of which costs more than \$42.00 a bottle. Don't mess with us wine lovers, Black Jack.

BLACK JACK to RUSSIA: Well, all I know is that the stuff was served to me in Memphis. (What can you expect in Tennessee?) Seems the stuff did cost \$42.00 a bottle, however, if that is any help. Don't badmouth Cucamonga--that is the home of Brookside Winery, the producers of a wine called "black velvet" that costs about \$42.00 a case.

VIENNA: Refugees report, among other atrocities, innkeepers being hung, drawn and quartered for laughing at a drunken Russian Field Marshall who asks for Bull Balls wine.

BELGRADE: The Belgrade mayor welcomed the troops of the 1st Turkish Army today with open arms. He announced, in a speech to the citizens of Belgrade and all of Serbia, and the army was invited to enter at the request of the Serbian government.

The commander of the Turkish 1st Army, after accepting the key to the city, said in a speech of acceptance that the citizens of Serbia had no reason to be fearful of the Turkish occupation force, and he also stated that once the borders of Serbia were secure from the threat of invasion "by other imperialistic powers" that the Turkish force would remove themselves from Serbian soil in order to meet other crises which might arise elsewhere. The commander mentioned six times in his speech that Serbia was at one time a part of European Turkey.

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And a thanks to Jim McCreadie for submitting standby orders for Germany. They were not needed.
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1980hu

Pestilence

F'04

, AUSTRIA OUT!!

AUST (Giddings) A GAL-Rum.

ENGL (J. Townsend) F HOL-Kie; F NWY(h); F NTH(s)F Nwy;
F SKA(s)F Nwy.

FRAN (Gallagher) F Mao-NAO; A BUR-Mun; A TYR(s)A Bur-

Mun; A BEL-Ruh; A PIC-Bel; F Gol-TYR; F
TUN(s)F Gol-Tyr.

GERM (Rodriguez) A Kie-Ruh.

ITAL (Langley) A VIE(s)A Tri-Bud; A Tri-BUD; A SER(s)A Ven-
Tri; A VEN-TRI; A Rom-NAP; F Tyr(h)/d & m
ret Rom, Tus, Wes or OTB/.

RUSS (Conners) F STP(nc)-Nwy; A FIN(s)F Stp(nc)-Nwy; A Swe-
DEN; F BAL(s)A Swe-Den; A BER(s)A Boh-Mun;
A BOH-Mun; A War-SIL; F RUM(s)TURKISH A Con-
Bul/nso/.

RUSS (Hartman) A Con-GRE; F AEG(c)A Con-Gre; A BUL(s)A Con-
Gre; F ALB(s)A Con-Gre; F ION(s)A Con-Gre.

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1904 supply center chart:

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AUST: ~~Ad~~ (0) out
ENGL: Home, Nwy, Swe, HOL (6) build .. 2
FRAN: Home, Bel, Por, Spa, Tun (7) even
GERM: Kie, ~~Ad~~ (1) even
ITAL: Home, Vie, Ser, Tri, BUD (7) .build .. 1
RUSS: Home, Rum, Den, Ber, Mun (8) even
TURK: Home, Bul, Gre (5) even
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I am calling for W'04 orders only on Wednesday June
24th, 1981 at 12:00 noon PDT. I know that this is going
to be real tight timing, but after the long delay for
fall 1904 I would like to get this gaming moving along
again. Only two players (Townsend and Langley) have
orders due at this time. If orders for England and Italy
are not received by the 24th, the winter deadline will be
automatically extended until July 8th.

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press:

PARIS to ROME: Greetings and welcome, let's throw the
infidels back into the desert.

PARIS to ENGLAND: I was getting just a bit jumpy seeing
the way Russia has been pushing you around so I thought
I could provide more support from the channel. //In
a last minute order change, France ordered F MAO to NAO
instead of ENG--there was no order to change or delete
any press. - G.M.//

AZORES to FRANCE: Eenie-meenie-minie-moe, wonder which way
you will go.

ITALY to GAME: I prefer my more secular title, 'Prince of Rome' to the generally accepted 'Pope'.

PRINCE OF ROME to SULTAN: I'm sure you have heard this before, but I'll give it one more try. The idea behind the game of Diplomacy is for the players to communicate between themselves, to attempt to better their positions on the board through alliance and deceit. When you don't communicate, you are not playing Diplomacy. What you are doing is holding down a small portion of the board in sort of a reserve bank for those players, who are playing Diplomacy, to come and take from you when they are ready to do so.

BLACK JACK to PRINCE OF ROME: Yeah, Mike Hartman knows all of that, but he has been more concerned about improving his golf scores than his position on the board in Pestilence.

ANKARA to MOSCOW, ROME & PARIS: O.K. I haven't written to anybody in a while--months actually. I have reasons (good ones--to me). Well, I'm back in the game now!

GALICIA to STANDBY: So you have insomnia, eh? Quit drinking that white wine and try a man's drink and you'll sleep better. Old Bushmills or Aalborg aqvavit are my choices. But maybe you should try a Shirley Temple? Stay away from my SC or I'll suicide against you.

PRINCE OF ROME to KING OF FRANCE: It's really nice to be in a game with an open friendly ally like you.

PRINCE OF ROME to TZAR OF RUSSIA: It's really nice to be in a game with an open friendly ally like you.

PRINCE OF ROME to KING OF ENGLAND: See the above.

IRELAND to TURKEY: You've hitched your wagon to the wrong horse. The Russian will turn on your flank as soon as it looks like you and Italy and/or France are totally entwined. Beware.

SWITZERLAND to 1980HU: Those of you who sub to LONE STAR DIPLOMAT, should check #2 and read up on the Russian/Turkish Juggernaut theory of the world.

LSD to SWITZERLAND: Unfortunately, issue #2 is temporarily out of print.

MOSCOW to ANKARA: Sorry, we just can't seem to coordinate very well. Juggernaut, indeed!

CAIRO to ITALY: Is it any wonder that everyone around you looks so hungry?

IRELAND to ENGLAND: Doesn't it feel like you are talking to yourself sometimes?

FRANCE to GERMANY: I'm glad Germany didn't C.D. I owe you one.

PARIS to RUSSIA: Have you given any more thought to that threesome? It's still a long way off but it makes for interesting daydreaming material.

PARIS to TURKEY: The silence from your end of the world is deafening.

REYKJAVIK to RUSSIA: Iceland is not a supply center! Go look somewhere else!!

PARIS to 1980HU: On 5/21 the bone doctors yanked out a chunk of my knee so if you don't get a response asap you know the problem.

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1980KJ

V.I.P.

F'03 update

HERE IS ALL THAT VITUPERATIVE PRESS!

There have been two calls for a seperation of winter and fall seasons. Winter 1903 only will be due on June 24th at 12:00 A.M., PDT.

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A CORRECTION:

F'03 orders for England and France should be corrected as follows:

ENGLAND: F NWG(h)/unordered/; F Nat-Mao/nsu/.

FRANCE: F Mao-NAO.

The Turkish units were reported correctly, there was a typographical error last time!

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And now, all that vituperative press that was left out last time--will the Frog-Killer ever forgive me?

LONDON TIMES: DAVE WHO? Ace investigative reporter Sherlock Holmes has uncovered unsurmountable evidence that there is no Dave Pilant. Have you ever received a letter from this man? No! (Well, one person has told me that Dave called him, but that person has never told the truth about anything else, so I tend not to believe him). Has Dave ever written any substantial press? No! Has

one of Dave's units ever supported a foreign unit? Again, No! Therefore, we reach the inevitable conclusion that there is no Dave Pilant! Rather, Dave Pilant is an alias created by Black Jack so that the Apple can play a position in this game. Com'on Jack, time to confess.

BLACK JACK to LONDON TIMES: No you are not quite right. Dave Pilant has indeed called people! You should have heard what he called Ron Brown and Tom Mainardi after their dastardly deed in Munich.

LONDON to APPLE DAVE/APPLE JACK: You don't write you don't phone, you don't even send me a press release. So take all my centers, who cares. It won't change anything, I still think you're a horse's posterior.

BLACK JACK to LONDON: You're real close. That is not exactly what Dave called Ron and Tom, but I think it means the same thing.

AUSTRIA: In an effort to save everybody concerned some postage and to bring this worst of all Diplomacy games to a merciful end, I would like to hereby propose a concession to Russia at this time. Since we already have affirmative votes from England, Germany and Italy, and since I am sure France will agree to this, and since there's no reason for Allenyi to vote against a cheap victory, and since I also vote for it, I guess the decision is up to Arnetto. How about it, Bob?

BUDAPEST to CONSTANTINOPLE: Sorry but every idiot in this game wants Wells to win and I'm not going to stand in their way.

AUSTRIA to BLACK JACK: How do I feel about this game, you ask? Well, you know how you feel about R-3. And how do I feel about the players in this game, you ask? Well, you know how Gary Coughlin feels about you?

AUSTRIA to BLACK JACK: Gee, that's so interesting that Mainardi was the best ally you ever had. Personally, I evaluate allies on the basis of such things a competence, intelligence and the ability to compose a simple letter. Evidently you have different ideas.

BLACK JACK to PUDGE: You have to butter him up a bit. You have to tell him you like Bersaglieri better than Voice of Doom!

OLSEN to WELLS and his mindless sycophant GARY COUGHLIN: So you two have gotten together at last--it was inevitable that my persecuters, being unable to match me one-

on-one, would gang up into big bunches of bullies. I'll take you all on! Coughlan already backed out of a game because he was afraid to take me on! What about you, Wells, you coward? Meeting you in a game of Dip would sure be a first, because VIP sure ain't it.

BLACK JACK to PUDGE: Sycophant! Who are you trying to impress with your vocabulary? If you want to call the little chimp a liar, just say so.

LONDON to FROG KILLER: Knock it off with the portage bit, I've enough of a burden to bear in this game already.

LONDON to MEMPHIS FLASH: Com'on Gary, us southerners have to stick together. I need all the help I can get in this game, so how about Y'ALL coming to my aid with some superlative press.

LONDON to KILLER FROG: Support all the German units into England that you like, you will never see an English center while I survive.

LONDON to BLACK JACK: How about another BF trophy game? Only this could be the BF sanitary bowl game. You can take the players who have done the worst, by country, in the other games and put them all in one game to determine who is really the bottom of the heap.

PARIS: C'mon guys, let's liven things up a bit!

ANKARA to MOSCOW: You played me for the fool a few times. Why should I trust you? When my fleet is in the Black Sea--let's deal. Then I can't lose Ankara or Con. Fair?

TURKEY to ITALY: You sure dropped the bomb on Austria. //not to mention Germany// Turkey wishes friendly relations with the wop.

TURKEY to GERMANY & FRANCE: Good show guys. While the force is with you, why not conquer the board?

BULGARIA: War surrounds us! Anybody wish to purchase some fighting Turkish mercenaries?

FROG-KILLER to BLACK JACK: I highly commend you for your valiant action in typing that press while you were still in a finger splint. You have earned my first "Dot Happy Dipper" award!! //Thanks! But I have probably lost it by not getting this press out with the adjudications last week.//

FROG KILLER to BLACK JACK: However, I must object strongly to the press message "Frog-Killer to Frog-Killer" you

put in last issue. "First you lose my vituperative press, then you side with Olsen (although, if one looks at you both sideways, there is an outside chance that people might think you came from the same side-show), and now are undermining my properly declared press dateline! I know what this is!! It is a conspiracy to drive beginners out of the hobby!!! I warn you Jack, if you continue to ignore your own house-rules I will include you in that lawsuit against Manuel!!

FROG-KILLER to FROG-KILLER: Who's side are you on anyway?

FROG-KILLER to FROG-KILLER: Ain't this a gig?

FROG-KILLER to BRUX: Ata boy Brux!! Get him good!! But before you bight Olsen again, stop by here at MIT. I know a lab where we can get some nice cultures that don't bother dogs at all, but would make Olsen look like a Missouri Swamp-Frog.

FROG-KILLER to RUSSIA: Looks like they were right to laugh at you for trusting "Bad-Mouth Arnett".

FROG-KILLER to ITALY: Is this time for real? Or do you go west in '04?

BLACK JACK to FROG-KILLER: Well he has gone east, west, east and north. He may try going south next. But, seriously if you want to get him to take on Olsen-- just tell him what great pals Pudge and Bruce Linsey are.

FROG-KILLER to MRS. OLSEN: Thank you for spanking Robert for me and sending him to bed early. I hope he will be nice now and send me the Teddy Bare he promised.

READERS to BLACK JACK: Stop Stop--this is all the vituperative press we can stand in one dose.

BLACK JACK to READERS: I agree, enough is enough.

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JONES' MOTTO:

*Friends come and go, but
enemies accumulate.*

McCLAUGHRY'S CODICIL TO JONES' MOTTO:

To make an enemy, do someone a favor.

About three weeks before D&L came out, I talked to Steve via phone and he confronted me with the question. At that time I told him that he misunderstood my intention in the comments and apologized to him.

But in closing his editorial in D&L, he states: "I call upon Masters to either present evidence to backup his charge, or to print a retraction and an apology."

Well Steve, I didn't make any charges (or at least I didn't intend to) so I find it rather impossible to present evidence to back up charges that I didn't make. I will and do apologize for any misunderstanding that may have resulted from the way my statements were worded. As for a retraction: 1980AN always has been and always will be my least favorite game--even more so now--this is the statement that I made and will not retract.

(2.) Oaklyn. Ever since I first heard the name Bernie Oaklyn, I never once doubted that he was indeed Buddy Tretick or that he was guilty of at least 90% of the charges levied against him. But I have been more or less soft on him--up until now that is. In a way I guess I admired the way that he simply didn't disappear into the woodwork with the heat he has gotten from respected hobby members. By being soft on him I simply avoided comments in his regard in Black Frog and I exchanged mutual subscriptions with him (not a trade--he paid for my zine and I paid for his). But I refused him the right to play in a Black Frog game and I refused to play one in Le Front (although Bernie once listed me as being signed up for a game--without my knowledge or consent.)

I stopped receiving Le Front as of the January issue and, since I had paid for a sub and expected to receive issues if they were being printed, I thought it was dead. Fat chance. Bernie simply cut my sub, without even informing me. Not only has he cut it but he and his cohorts (Ozog, Kovalcik and Kozlowski to mention a few) have started a vendetta against me. No big deal (unlike Kendter, McLendon and Sergeant--whom I have always held in high esteem) I have never liked any of the Oaklyn gang anyway.

It seems that the Oaklyn vendetta is the result of wrongdoings that I am alledged of committing against his chief lieutenant, Eric Ozog.... read on:

(3.) Eric Ozog. Ozog subscribed to Black Frog last fall when subscriptions were by donation--as many of you remember. In December I offered a double-money back

offer on these donations, to anybody who was unhappy with what they were getting. But there was one restriction, you would have to let me know by January 1st. About two weeks later Ozog wrote, said that he was quitting the hobby and didn't want to receive BF anymore. He would like a refund. Since Ozog obviously didn't want to get BF anymore, I quit sending them to him. Since he had missed the deadline on my double-money back offer and since the cost of printing and mailing the issues that he had received exceeded the amount of his donation. He got no refund.

Well I understand Ozog is back in the hobby and once again pushing his 'zine Diplomacy by Moonlight. He has not sent me copies, but I understand that he has been blasting me pretty heavily (I have learned this through secondary sources). (I have written a letter to Brutus Bulletin that delves into Mr. Ozog in greater detail if anybody is interested.)

(4.) John Caruso. In Whitestonia #36 (June 2nd, 1981) John Caruso has seen fit to spike many little digs in my regard. All are harmless except for one thing. On page 7 he fabricates a quote that he claims came from me. "That Caruso doesn't have the brains God gave a retarded goose!"

John claims that this is a statement that I made about him in another 'zine but he "can't remember the zine".

Well John this is an out and out lie. I have never made such a statement and it is completely out of character for me to write things like that. Will you please print a retraction, or (which you will be unable to do) produce the 'zine where I made such a statement!

(5.) Mark Lew. Well Mark Lew is a long long story and I will not go into it here. Suffice it to say that I am not at all happy with him, nor he with me.

And this, my friends (and some of you who are not friends) is why this issue is one week late and why I am at a very low ebb in the hobby.

Jack Masters



John H. Masters
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Contains game results for:

- () 1980HR "War"
- () 1980HS "Famine"
- (X) 1980HU "Pestilence"
- () 1980ID "Death"
- (X) 1980KJ "V.I.P."
- (X) 1981K "Greed"
- () 1981_ "Lust"
- () 1981_ "Diplomacy"